

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed July 12, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 26-28 and 30-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being drawn to non-statutory subject matter. In response, claims 26-28 and 30-34 have been canceled.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5, 11-19, 24-30, 34, 35, and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Brown, et al.* ("Brown," U.S. Pat. No. 6,671,805).

As indicated above, each remaining independent claim has been amended through this Response. In view of those amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections are moot.

Turning to the merits of independent claim 1, Applicant notes that Brown at least does not teach a "printing device" receiving an unmodifiable document and "collecting with the printing device handwritten content from a recipient of the document" and "adding data reflective of the handwritten content to the document without replacing original content of the document".

Regarding independent claim 17, Brown at least does not teach a system comprising "a printing device configured to receive [a] transmitted document, to collect

handwritten content from a recipient of the document, and to add data reflective of the handwritten content to the document without replacing original content of the document".

Regarding independent claim 35, Brown at least does not teach a printing device comprising "a touch-sensitive screen configured to receive manually handwritten content entered into the touch-sensitive screen with a stylus" or memory including a document ratification manager that is configured "to collect handwritten content from a recipient of the document using the touch-sensitive screen, and to add data reflective of the handwritten content to the document without replacing original content of the document".

In view of the above, each of claims 1, 17, and 35, and their dependents, are believed to be allowable over the Brown reference.

III. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Rejection of Claims 6-8, 10, 20, 21, 23, 31, 33, 36, and 38

Claims 6-8, 10, 20, 21, 23, 31, 33, 36, and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Brown* in view of *Iggulden, et al.* ("Iggulden," U.S. Pat. No. 4,918,723).

As identified above, Brown does not teach several of Applicant's claims. In that Iggulden does not remedy the deficiencies of the Brown reference, Applicant respectfully submits that remaining claims 6-8, 10, 20, 21, and 23 are allowable over the Brown/Iggulden combination for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 17 are allowable over Brown.

B. Rejection of Claims 4, 9, 22, 32, and 37

Claims 4, 9, 22, 32, and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Brown* in view of *Adobe Acrobat 4.0 User Guide* ("Adobe"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As identified above, *Brown* does not teach aspects of Applicant's claims. In that *Adobe* does not remedy the deficiencies of the *Brown* reference, Applicant respectfully submits that remaining claims 4, 9, and 22 are allowable over the *Brown/Adobe* combination for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 17 are allowable over *Brown*.

IV. Canceled Claims

Claims 5, 26-34, and 36-38 have been canceled from the application without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to present these canceled claims, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequently.

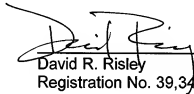
V. New Claims

Claims 40 and 41 have been added into the application through this Response. Applicant respectfully submits that these new claims describe an invention novel and unobvious in view of the prior art of record and, therefore, respectfully requests that these claims be held to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Risley
Registration No. 39,345